

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.: 10/549,437  
Confirmation No.: 5576  
First-Named Inventor: Thomas A. Osborne  
Filing Date: May 2, 2006  
Group Art Unit: 3738  
Examiner: Suzette J. Gherbi  
Attorney Docket No.: 3006-1772  
Title: VASCULAR VALVE WITH REMOVABLE SUPPORT  
COMPONENT

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION ACCEPTING SUBJECT  
MATTER INDICATED AS ALLOWABLE**

Honorable Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated August 4, 2008, please consider the following amendments and remarks. Additionally, please provide any extensions of time which may be necessary and charge any fees which may be due to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include any payment of issue fees.